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YUGOSLAV TECHNICAL AND SCIENTIFIC DOCUMENT CENTER

Borba  
Zagreb, 24 Aug 1953

The Technical and Scientific Document Center (Jugoslavenski centar za tehnicku i naucnu dokumentaciju) in Belgrade is a valuable establishment, but is not sufficiently utilized. No major scientific or technical project need be undertaken blindly, as the center has the necessary publications to implement its establishment. Therefore, it would be considered inexcusable for an enterprise to begin production, for example of an obsolete model of a machine.

The Yugoslav Technical and Scientific Document Center, which has been operating for 5 years, plays an important role in Yugoslav industrial and scientific development. In addition to domestic periodicals, the center subscribes to approximately 1,300 outstanding technical and 500 scientific periodicals, published abroad. The center publishes five technical bulletins and will soon begin publishing three scientific bulletins. Approximately 700 Yugoslav specialists in technical and scientific fields are associates of the center.

The center's main activities consist of the systematic collection, careful classification, and regular reporting of data obtained from the most significant technical and scientific documents published in Yugoslavia and abroad.

The center's library has approximately 80,000 copies of the foremost periodicals collected during the past 5 years, and about 40,000 scientific and specialized books donated by the various ministries. With the technical assistance of the UN and the cooperation of UNESCO specialists, the center is today comparable to the best establishments of this type in countries more industrially developed than Yugoslavia.

At present the center keeps its readers informed only on recent literature received by its library and the libraries of other scientific establishments. The center publishes reviews of articles and bibliographic information in its monthly technical bulletins on agriculture and forestry; on machine construction and electrical engineering; on geology, mining and metallurgy; on chemistry and the chemical industry; on construction, architecture, and transportation; and on economic sciences. By mid-1953, the center had published approximately 44,000 reviews and articles.

The center's new scientific bulletins will be published for the use of scientific, educational, and health organizations and for scientific workers in all the sciences. The new bulletins, which will contain only bibliographic information, will cover theoretical, experimental, analytic, inorganic, and organic chemistry, mineralogy, geology, meteorology, climatology, stratigraphy, petrography, mineral deposits, paleontology, biological sciences, botany, zoology, medicine, pharmacology, and veterinary medicine. The center abandoned a plan to publish a fourth scientific bulletin on mathematics, astronomy, geodesy, and physics because the directorate of the Federal Association of Mathematicians and Physicists declared that such a bulletin would be valueless and unnecessary.

The well organized catalog system at the center has been collecting bibliographic information on all types of scientific and technical articles. This information is supplied to interested individuals and organizations. The microfilm section, equipped with modern apparatus, produces microfilms and photostats of selected articles upon the customer's request.

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